

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested in view of amendments above and the following remarks. Claims 1-31 are pending, of which claims 1, 13, 19, 30, and 35 are independent.

Restriction Requirement

A telephonic interview was conducted between Examiner Scott and the Applicants' representative, Ashok Mannava, on February 5, 2009.

Examiner Scott indicated the claims would be restricted and requested selection of one of the groups. The restriction was described as follows:

- Group 1 claims 1-12 and 35-37;
- Group 2 claims 13-18;
- Group 3 claims 19-29; and
- Group 4 claims 30-34.

The Examiner suggested combining the features of independent claim 19 with claim 1, to link groups 1 and 3, and thus require examination of both groups. Accordingly, most of the features of claim 19 have been combined with claim 1, and claim 1 is believed to be the linking claims for groups 1 and 3. Accordingly, groups 1 and 3 are selected for examination (claims 1-12, 19-29, and 35-37).

If the Examiner does not believe groups 1 and 3 are linked, group 1 is selected with traverse. Furthermore, if the Examiner does not believe groups 1 and 3 are linked, the Examiner is requested to provide a full explanation of the restriction.

PATENT

Atty Docket No.: 200311282-1
App. Ser. No.: 10/797,152

Conclusion

In light of the foregoing, withdrawal of the rejections of record and allowance of this application are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that a telephone conference with the undersigned would assist in resolving any issues pertaining to the allowability of the above-identified application, please contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below. Please grant any required extensions of time and charge any fees due in connection with this request to deposit account no. 08-2025.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: February 5, 2009

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